



St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos* ~

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025 10:30 am

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or physical or mental ability—
your presence here today is a blessing!

About Our Service

Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's! If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Episcopal Church, simply rest into the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship.

Please silence your phones.

~ Prelude ~

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

Welcome

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

(please stand as you are able)

The Great Litany of Creation

God the Creator of all,

Have mercy upon us.

God the Incarnate Word, present in Creation from the beginning,

Have mercy upon us.

God the Spirit of truth and forgiveness,

Have mercy upon us.

Holy Trinity, divine community,

Have mercy upon us.

We come before you in this time of deepening social and climate crisis to confess our complicity and inaction, to pray for those most severely affected, and to ask for the courage and perseverance to be diligent in prayer, in seeking truth, in allowing ourselves to be transformed, and in acting with Spirit-led wisdom for the good of our human and non-human siblings.

Hear us, gracious God.

We confess that we have not valued your air, which sustains every breath, and have instead polluted it with toxic chemicals and waste products, especially concentrated where Black and brown bodies live. We have filled the air with extra carbon, which is causing catastrophic climate changes and global heating.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have wasted and polluted water, the drink of life and main substance in our bodies. We have discharged heavy metals into the seas and rivers, choked them with fertilizer and manure run-off, clogged the oceans with plastic, and poisoned our most vulnerable children with industrial chemicals and lead-filled water from old pipes.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have abused the soil, the Earth mother who teems with life and provides food for all land creatures. We have squandered her, allowing her to blow away, killing her vitality with chemical pesticides and fertilizers, depleting her by overuse and greed. We have abandoned and buried toxic and radioactive waste in her; we have stolen her from indigenous people who loved and tended her with care.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have scorned and devalued the simplest organisms—bacteria, algae, and fungi—without which we could not live, and the myriads of insects, worms, and spiders that pollinate our food, aerate our soil, and recycle dead organisms into rich soil. Instead, we have responded with loathing, drugs and chemicals to kill them off.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have turned your diverse, interconnected Eden into sterile monocrops of bioengineered food items and grass lawns. We have ravaged the forests for cheap paper and wood, and leveled rainforests to grow meat cattle.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have slaughtered large animals for economic gain, out of fear, and for sport or hatred of those who depend on them—wolves, whales, bison, bears—and have slaughtered or poisoned small mammals and rodents when they seem bothersome or inconvenient—skunks, mice, rats, squirrels, moles.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have caused the deaths of many millions of birds, reptiles, amphibians and water creatures and wiped out countless species, due to loss of habitat and food, overfishing, and pollution.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that instead of cherishing and learning from the indigenous peoples who have lived in harmony with Creation, we have systematically worked to destroy them, their cultures and knowledge and to claim the land they lived from as our own. We continue to allow this destruction of lands, waters, and sovereignty on native lands.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have dominated, enslaved and exploited the bodies, land, and resources of our human siblings in this country and around the world for economic gain, especially those of Black and brown bodies, despoiling their lives and leaving behind poverty and environmental disaster for our cheap crops and goods. We continue to allow this even in our local communities.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

We confess that we have not loved our own God-given bodies, believing ourselves to be separate from the created order, looking for ease and comfort instead of rigorous use, looking to satisfy our hungers with possessions instead of relationship to your perfect world and with busyness instead of attunement to the rhythms of Creation.

Have mercy on us, merciful God.

Free us from the gods of greed, wealth, and private property and the heresy of believing that what we own is ours to use or abuse and not yours, to respect, share and give away for the benefit and blessing of all.

Gracious God, deliver us.

Free us from the idols of comfort and ease, of speed and productivity that lead us to violate relationships and ignore the needs and well-being of our own and other's bodies.

Gracious God, deliver us.

Free us from our inability to face the truth and give us the grace to grieve together for what we have lost and despoiled.

Gracious God, deliver us.

Free us from despair and paralyzing fear, and the privilege of caring only about our own well-being while others suffer.

Gracious God, deliver us.

Free us from the lie that we are separate from our human and non-human siblings; lead us into deep and reciprocal relationships so that we know viscerally that we are one with all life.

Gracious God, deliver us.

For those most directly affected by rising temperatures, rising seas, adverse weather events, drought and climate migration, we pray, especially those you now name...

Hear us, O God of life.

For species at risk of extinction, including our own

Hear us, O God of life.

For frontline communities most heavily impacted by environmental injustice and climate crises, and for the many organizers, leaders and people standing up for justice, health and equity, we pray,

Hear us, O God of life.

That we may have a renewed and restored relationship to all of Creation, we pray,

Hear us, O God of life.

That we may persevere in prayer, in spiritual discipline and grounding; that we may cling to the hope of resurrection in the face of evil and death and hold up one another in that hope, we pray,

Hear us, O God of life.

That we may be filled with the courage to change and the commitment to act, being willing to use whatever skills, resources, and energy we have to do this life-giving work, we pray,

Hear us, O God of life.

That we may have the strength to build community and the humility to learn to rely on one another, especially listening to the young, the poor, and those who have historically been silenced, we pray,

Hear us, O God of life.

That we may become mighty leaders in our own local communities, and mighty advocates for generations yet unborn, we pray,

Hear us, O God of life.

Child of God, we ask you to hear us.

Child of God, we ask you to hear us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Grant us peace.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Grant us, O God, the courage to choose Jesus' way even at great cost, bearing our cross and releasing our possessions, for the liberation and healing of your world; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

People: Amen

(please be seated for the readings)

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Reader: A Reading from the book of Jeremiah

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

S414

Domine, probasti

The chant setting will be played once through, then all chant the Psalm together, changing tone for the bolded word



LORD, you have searched me out and **known me**; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from a-**far**.

You trace my journeys and my **resting-places** *
and are acquainted with all my **ways**.

Indeed, there is not a word on my **lips**, *
but you, O LORD, know it alto-**gether**.

You press upon me behind and be-**fore** *
and lay your hand u-**pon me**.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for **me**; *
it is so high that I cannot at-**tain to it**.

For you yourself created my inmost **parts**; *
you knit me together in my mother's **womb**.

I will thank you because I am marvelously **made**; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it **well**.

My body was not hidden **from you**, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the **earth**.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your **book**; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was **none of them**.

How deep I find your thoughts, O **God**! *
how great is the **sum of them**!

(repeat the second half of the chant setting for final stanza)

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the **sand**; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like **yours**.

Our Relationship with Creation

Reader: A Reading from “Our Relationship with Creation” by Br. Keith Nelson

“When we violate, abuse, exploit, or even simply ignore non-human creatures, we are rejecting a core dimension of our humanity and of God’s calling for us. We are crucifying the earth. We are interrupting, speaking over, or bickering with God’s gentle language of love, in which each creature is like a syllable of the living Word. Each creature is an instance of Divine Gift, God’s gift to Godself, the love language of the Trinity. We believe God became a Creature in Jesus Christ and redeemed Creation from the inside out so that we creatures can participate directly in this infinite pattern of God’s giving-and-receiving.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God

(please stand as you are able as we welcome the Gospel)

♪ Hymn #338

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Blue Hymnal

Luke 14:25-33

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ According to Luke

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

[We pause for a few moments' reflection before affirming our faith.]

Affirmation of Faith

(please stand as you are able)

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All: *We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one,
the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.*

*And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God and who moves among
and with us today.*

We believe in everlasting life in God.

*And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.*

Prayers of the People

Adapted from Glimpses of Glory by David Adams

Holy One, in our freedom guide us,
that we may choose love and not hatred,
that we may choose life and not death,
that we may turn freely to you, and so abide for ever.

Grant your church courage to proclaim the gospel and to reveal your glory in the way we live.

Loving God, guide us
and grant us a glimpse of your glory.

We pray for all people who are confused in a world overwhelming choice,
for all who lack clear direction, and all who are led astray.
We pray that the leaders in our world and in the media may set life-giving examples.
We remember especially those who teach the young and influence them.
We pray for youth leaders and all who guide growing people.

Loving God, guide us
and grant us a glimpse of your glory.

We give thanks for our communities and our loved ones,
and ask you to bless them with your love and peace.
We pray for all those looking after children;
we ask your blessing on all daycares and preschools.

Loving God, guide us
and grant us a glimpse of your glory.

We pray for people whose lives are insecure,
and for all whose relationships, homes, or livelihoods are at risk.
We pray for all who are struggling with addictions.
We ask your blessing on all whose health is failing,
and on those whose abilities are waning and are becoming dependent on others.
Give strength and courage to loved ones who are ill and are suffering.
We pray for those names in our bidding book.

[here prayers are added from the bidding book and
you are invited to add your own prayers silently or aloud]

Loving God, guide us
and grant us a glimpse of your glory.

We give thanks for the promise of eternal life and the hope of glory,
for the saints who are in your kingdom.
We pray for loved ones and friends who are departed from us.

Loving God, guide us
and grant us a glimpse of your glory.

Silence

Celebrant: God of time and space,
you call us to discern your presence in the world:
grant us wisdom to perceive you,
grant us courage to work with you,
grant us power to proclaim you,
above all, grant us a heart to love you;
through Jesus Christ our Savior,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: *And also with you.*

The congregation may greet one another in the name of Christ .

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or any special concern, may come forward.
Prayers can be found on the white or yellow card in your pew.

The Offertory

You are invited to make a thank offering, but if you do not contribute financially today please give thanks for God's blessing as the plate is passed. You can contribute at our website www.stbenslososos.org at any time.



Unison




1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn a -
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will



save. I who made the stars of night,
 way. I will break their hearts of stone,
 save. Fin - est bread I will pro - vide



I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my
 Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
 Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



light to them? Whom shall I send? _____
 word to them. Whom shall I send? _____
 life to them. Whom shall I send? _____

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have

heard you call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord,

if you lead me, I will hold your peo - ple in my

heart. 1. 2. 3. heart.

Words and Music: Daniel L. Schutte. Copyright © 1981, Daniel L. Schutte; and New Dawn Music, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(please stand as you are able)

♪ Doxology:

[Hymn tune #400]

[sung]

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise God the Source of all our gifts
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*

Holy Eucharist

EOW Prayer 2

S120

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and accidentals.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Celebrant: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing

♪ Sanctus

S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat:

This is my Body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Benedict and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

**All: *Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
Holy One, our only Home,
hallowed be your name.
May your day dawn,
your will be done,
here as in heaven.
Feed us today,
and forgive us as we forgive each other.
Do not forsake us at the test,
but deliver us from evil.
For the glory, the power,
and the mercy are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer written by Martha Blacklock,
Mother Thunder Mission, "Honoring God in Creation"

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

Fraction Anthem

S161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant: This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

People: *All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Holy Communion

If God is calling you, you are welcome to receive communion when the celebrant invites your section forward. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

♪ Communion Music

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

♪ Hymn #431

“The stars declare his glory”

Blue Hymnal

Silence

Sending of the Eucharistic Visitor If no visitation is to be made, prayer is not said.

When the Eucharist is brought to people at any place outside our walls, we say the following to send our Lay Eucharistic Visitors or other Ministry team members out with care and blessings.

Celebrant: In the name of this parish family, I send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, to _____. Together, we share in the body and blood of Christ. And we who are many are one Body because we share one Bread and one Cup.

All: *We who are many are one Body, because we share one Bread and one Cup. Amen*

(please stand as you are able)

Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

♪ Hymn #405

“All things bright and beautiful”

Blue Hymnal

Dismissal

Celebrant: Tend the earth,
care for God’s good Creation;
as you have received freely,
so give freely.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

♪ Postlude

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle



Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from Enriching Our Worship
© 1988 Church Publishing Incorporated Used with permission
Music reproduced and broadcast under OneLicense #A706314

Ministers of the Service

Presider:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Eucharistic Minister:	Brian Spolarich
Chalice:	Alan Kiste
Lector:	Don Maruska
Flowers:	Pamela Bleisch
Usher:	Alan Kiste
Usher:	Jim Malone
Music:	Paul Burkle
Altar Guild:	Pat Stoneman
Online Host:	Don Maruska
Teller:	Alice Welchert
Teller:	Diana Hammerlund
Technical:	Hannah Matthews

This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday	Sep 9
9:45 a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30 a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Sunday	Sep 14
10:30 a	Eucharist Service
2:00 p	Creation Stroll in SLO

The Season of Creation

The Season of Creation is an international, ecumenical time of prayer, reflection, and action, it begins on **September 1** with the World Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on **October 4**, the Feast Day of St. Francis. The central theme for this year is "Peace with Creation," inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18:

Then justice will dwell in the wilderness
and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.
The effect of righteousness will be peace,
and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.
My people will abide in a peaceful habitation,
in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

Today, join Rev Linzi for a time of conversation as we begin the Season of Creation - Rev. Linzi will facilitate a **conversation** about the role of the Church in response to the climate crisis, and the ways that we, as Episcopalians, can lean into our spiritual heritage to discern a meaningful path forward. Coffee Hour conversations will begin at about 12:15, we'll aim to be done by 1pm.

On **Sunday, September 14** at 2pm, St. Ben's Earthcare is co-sponsoring, with the Sierra Club, a very special event for the Season of Creation! On a **one-mile guided stroll in SLO**, peek into the hidden lives of trees! We will walk past a dozen species notable for their age or uniqueness and pass several "*Heritage Trees*," chosen by SLO for their part in the city's history. Learn too some basic facts about tree ecology. John Ashbaugh, former city council member, will describe the Heritage Trees program. Meet at the corner of Buchon and Toro Streets. Call Leader: Joe Morris, 805-549-0355, for further information. If you'd like to join this event, we'd appreciate an RSVP to know who to expect, please RSVP via the link in the Benediction Weekly.

On **Saturday, September 20**, the diocesan Social Justice Committee is hosting a conference, **Spiritual Foundations of Creation Care and Creation Justice**, this is a one-day, in-person conference, and will be held at Church of the Good Shepherd, in Salinas. Folks from St. Ben's Earthcare are planning on driving up, if you'd like to coordinate a ride please reach out to the group. There is a link in the Benediction Weekly.

Blessing of the Animals will be in the yard at the Abundance Shop, on **Saturday, October 4**. We will have a short prayer service at 3pm, during which we'll bless those animals present, and offer prayers for all those companion animals we love. We could use some help planning and coming out on the day for this, so if you can help support this event, an important way St. Benedict's brings the love of God out into the community, please let Rev. Linzi know via email.

Announcements

Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation: The Spiritual Conversation group is reading Pema Chödrön's book *When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times*. "The beautiful practicality of her teaching has made Pema Chödrön one of the most beloved of contemporary American spiritual authors among Buddhists and non-Buddhists alike. The book is a treasury of wisdom for going on living when we are overcome by pain and difficulties."

The next **Deanery Meeting** will be on Tuesday, September 16, at 6:30pm. This is the annual budget and resolution review meeting in preparation for diocesan convention on November 1. The meeting will be on Zoom only, and the links can be found on the diocesan website (realepiscopal.org).

The Feast of All Saints falls each year on November 1, but it's a feast day which can be moved to Sunday, so this year we'll observe this major feast day on Sunday, November 2. All Saints' is the day on which we remember the exemplary lives of the saints of the church, known and unknown, who lived remarkable lives of holiness and faith; during this liturgy we give thanks for their witness to the Gospel, and all the ways their lives continue to serve as an inspiration for our own.

All Souls' Day is November 2, the day after All Saints'. This year we'll be celebrating the Feast of All Saints at our morning service on November 2, and so we will observe All Souls' later that same day (on 11/2), at 5pm, with a candlelit service. All Souls' is a powerful time of remembrance of all those we love but see no longer, all those who have died in the faith, our beloveds, those whose memories we cherish, all the 'ordinary' believers. There will be more to come about this service, in the meantime, please mark your calendars and let friends and loved ones who might be interested know that everyone is invited and welcome.

An all-gender restroom is located through the white door at the left of the sanctuary. All other restrooms are located by exiting out the doors and going down the outdoor wooden walkway towards the red door and then down the hallway to the left. Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge with gratitude the yak tityu tityu yak tilhini (ytt) / the Northern Chumash People, and the Salinan Tribe / the T'epot'aha'l, "People of the Oaks," on whose ancestral homelands we gather, and whose vibrant culture continues today. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world.

Our Mission Statement

St. Benedict's is an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry, and commitment to social justice.

Our Inclusivity Statement

The people of St Benedict's are called to share God's love as we minister with and to all persons in Los Osos and beyond, providing worship, nurture, fellowship, and service.

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or physical or mental ability.

We embrace and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation. We cooperate in ministry with other local churches and groups of God's people as we participate in the worldwide mission of Christ.



St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

PO Box 6877

2220 Snowy Egret Lane

Los Osos, CA 93402

805-528-0654

office@stbenslososos.org

www.stbenslososos.org

